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27 March 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Meeting on Problems Raised by the Withdrawal
of State Department Support of the External
Research Staff

1. An interagency meeting held in my office on 26 March to discuss some of the problems raised by the imminent withdrawal of State Department support from its external research staff was attended by representatives of PSB, RDB, Army, Navy, Air Force and CIA (OHR, OCI and DD/P).

2. Consensus was reached on the following items:

a. The function of serving as a clearing house for information concerning social science research projects as currently being performed by ERS should be continued.

b. This function should be located in some place associated with foreign policy since it is agreed that social science researchers have a particularly active interest in exchanging ideas and materials concerning their research in the foreign policy fields.

c. To assure budgetary stability for the function, it may be desirable to remove the function administratively from the Department of State. This group was unable to suggest a precise means of correlating items 2b and 2c.

3. Alternatives to having this function located in State were:

a. Locate it in CIA, although the problems of security are recognized; and

b. Locate it with some private research contract organization
[redacted] This was a distinct third possibility and one for which there was not much enthusiasm.

4. The military representatives indicated that if the function were dropped the military would have to find ways of doing this some how.

State Department review completed

JAMES Q. REBER
Assistant Director
Intelligence Coordination

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